

Outlook

THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND FACULTY AND STAFF WEEKLY NEWSPAPER
Volume 14, Number 1, August 31, 1999

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Once Again, Maryland's Freshmen are the Brightest Ever

As they have for nearly a decade, the freshmen students arriving on the University of Maryland campus this fall bring stronger academic credentials than any class preceding them.

A record number of applications from an increasingly talented pool of high school seniors resulted in the university being able to fill its limited freshman slots with students that far exceed the standard qualifications for admission, says Linda Clement, director of undergraduate admissions.

"We are in a very positive cycle," Clement says. "Thanks to increasing visibility for our faculty, our research programs and our academic innovations, we have become the university of choice for many students who would traditionally choose Ivy League or other private schools. These

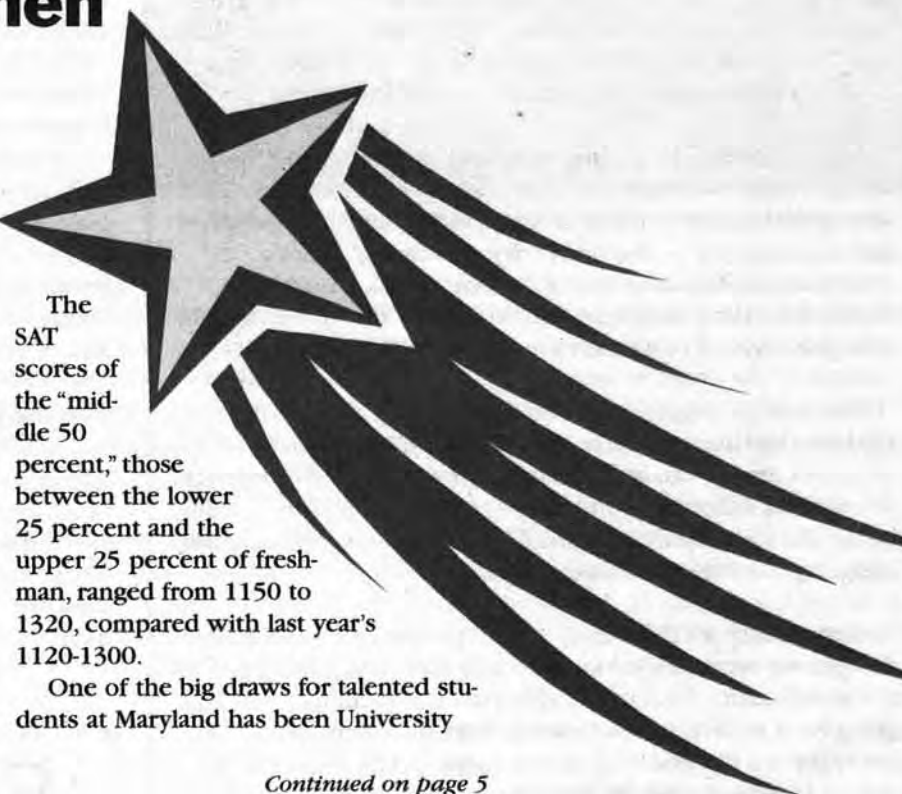
students now know that Maryland offers an outstanding undergraduate education.

"As more and more of those students choose to come here, that also improves our reputation and makes us even more attractive to succeeding classes of high-achieving students," Clement adds.

The preliminary profile of the 3,880 freshmen who have confirmed their intention to enroll at Maryland shows dramatic improvements over last year's freshman class, which was the best ever.

About 30 percent of the new freshmen (1,300 students) scored 1300 or higher on the SAT, compared with 25 percent, or 1,105, last year. Nine new students scored a perfect 1600 on the SAT.

The average cumulative high school grade-point average of this year's class was 3.64, compared with last year's 3.54.



The SAT scores of the "middle 50 percent," those between the lower 25 percent and the upper 25 percent of freshman, ranged from 1150 to 1320, compared with last year's 1120-1300.

One of the big draws for talented students at Maryland has been University

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Five Faculty Honored as Distinguished Scholar-Teachers

When faculty are passionate about their work it shows. Students who thrive in such positive learning environments are often effusive in their teacher evaluations, and fellow faculty are equally inspired.

Last spring, in recognition of their efforts, five tenured faculty, considered leaders in scholarship and teaching, were chosen Distinguished Scholar-Teachers: Jordan Goodman, Stephen Graham, Linda Mabbs, Arthur Popper and Frederick Suppe. Each received \$5,000 to support instructional and scholarly activities, and each will present a lecture next spring as part of the annual Distinguished Scholar-Teacher lecture series.

Represented among the five faculty members are disciplines that range from zoology to philosophy, physics to music, and education as well. But the common thread among them all is the enthusiasm their teaching generates in students and colleagues alike.

So effusive are **Jordan Goodman's** students about his teaching that one went so far as to suggest Goodman be considered for canonization. The physics professor and recently named chair of the physics department seems to know the secret to making an often dreaded course fun and interesting.

"It does not seem to matter that the class is roughly 200 or that he has taught this before," says one student in an evaluation. "He personally wants us all to

learn, and he really cares."

Former physics department chair Stephen Wallace attributes Goodman's popularity to the "energy and down-to-earth intelligence he brings to lectures." For Goodman, who loves teaching, his goal has been "to bring my enthusiasm for the subject together with innovation in course delivery to make the course a positive learning experience for the students."

In teaching Physics 106, for example, a course for

non-science majors dealing with light and optics, Goodman required students to do more than memorize facts. "They were required to write descriptions and explain numerical answers," he says. "No multiple choice questions were given, even in classes as large as 300."

Goodman also excels in research. In what many believe to be the biggest recent discovery in the field, an international group of physicists working in

Japan, including Goodman, detected neutrinos generated by cosmic rays entering Earth's upper atmosphere. Called Super Kamiokande (Super-K), the experiment has provided evidence that neutrinos, which occur in three types, may be oscillating from one type to another. Goodman also is co-leading work to develop a new cosmic ray detector in the mountains of New Mexico.

Perhaps Goodman's enthusiasm for his teaching comes from the fact that he is an alumnus of the university, having earned his B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. here. In 1994, he was awarded the President's Award for Outstanding Service to the Schools. In 1992, he received the Panhellenic Association Certificate for Outstanding Teaching, and in 1993, he was recognized as the "most influential faculty member."

Professor **Stephen Graham**, of the department of

special education, serves as "a model of what a professor at a major research university should be," says department chair Philip Burke. One of the most prolific scholars in the department, Graham "has inspired an entire generation of young professionals who have committed themselves to teaching children with learning disabilities," Burke says.

"It is rare to find Professor Graham without students in his office, or lined up waiting to receive the benefit of his advice," says Burke. "It is significant that Dr. Graham, despite being the leading scholar in his chosen field, consistently teaches both undergraduate and graduate students and is immensely popular with both

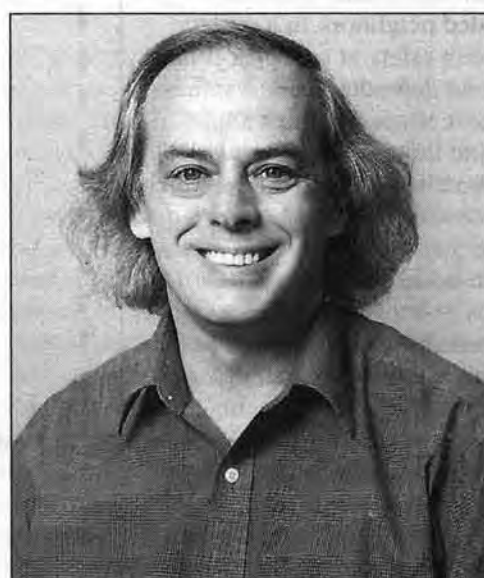
groups."

Graham's research has examined the underlying causes of writing difficulties, the validation of assessment procedures and the effectiveness of promising remedies, including technological innovations and instruction. His research has resulted in more than

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Jordan Goodman



Steve Graham



verbatim

"The essence of the argument is, you really want equality of results, not equality of process. (Otherwise), we'll be stuck with trying to find one policy that works for all people, one size fits all. And when you do that, you'll favor the people in control of the system, with all the power and experience." —*William Sedlacek, professor of education and director of testing, in a May 28 Chronicle of Higher Education article about federal challenges to colleges' reliance on standardized tests.*

"Silencing discussion about gender and black women's lives, out of a sense of loyalty, has been one aspect of constructing a history that favors an uninterrogated racial unity over gender and class analysis." —*Sbaron Harley, director of African American Studies, in a May 27 article in Black Issues in Higher Education about the frustrations of incorporating feminist perspectives in African American studies.*

"Every time an engineer enables a feature (on a toy) that changes the character, there is an influence on a child." —*Allison Druin, research associate in the Human-Computer Interaction Laboratory, in a May 31 story on EETimes Online about the importance of considering character lessons in the design of interactive children's toys.*

"I think frankly it's frightened a lot of people of good will who thought we were headed in a different direction. I think part of this renaissance of interest in slavery is a reflection of that and going back to first causes. In some ways the discussion of slavery really is a discussion of race. It helps us talk about the question of race." —*Ira Berlin, professor of history, in a June 1 story in the Detroit Free Press about the resurgent interest in the history of slavery in America.*

"My teachers impressed upon me that collecting art was an affirmation of one's own participation in his or her own culture. I didn't start off with the notion of building a major collection. We bought what we could afford, and in some cases exchanged work with other artists." —*David Driskell, distinguished university professor of art, in a June 6 Dallas Morning News feature about his acclaimed collection of African American art that is touring the nation.*

"It is time to give community associations discretion, within reason, to choose members. Given the diversity of culture in this country, I am confident that few Americans would be unable to find a group of like-minded neighbors. In a society where people fear for their children's safety at school, it is clear that a key institution for forming and defending ethical values—the local community—is in desperate shape. We must allow Americans the freedom to constitute their neighborhoods according to deeply felt personal bonds." —*Robert Nelson, professor of public affairs, in a guest column in the June 14 edition of Forbes, arguing for greater powers for homeowners associations to create exclusive communities.*

"What's significant here is the mobilization of women in politics. For men, it's an investment. For women it's much more about larger societal goals ... abortion, taxes, the environment." —*Paul Herrnsen, professor of government and politics, in a June 9 USA Today story about the "gender gap" in contributions to political campaigns.*

"Doing this is exactly what the doctor ordered. I'd like to see these kinds of actions become more prevalent as they are obviously less costly than the alternative." —*Guillermo Calvo, professor of economics, in a June 16 Wall Street Journal story about a multi-party international financing package to prevent an economic crisis in Mexico.*

Stephen Halperin to Lead Computer, Mathematical and Physical Sciences

Stephen Halperin, a leading mathematical researcher and administrator, has been appointed dean of the College of Computer, Mathematical and Physical Sciences. Halperin, who officially starts Sept. 1, comes from the University of Toronto where he was acting vice president for research and international relations and program leader for the Network of Centres of Excellence of the Mathematical Institutes for Technological and Computational Sciences.

"The search committee was very impressed by Stephen Halperin's record of academic and administrative excellence," says search committee chair William Destler, vice president for research and dean of the Graduate School.

"We were especially impressed with the remarkable progress he has made in moving the department of mathematics at the University of Toronto to a position of national stature in a relatively short time."

A professor of mathematics, Halperin recently stepped down as chair of Toronto's department of mathematics. Under his direction the department came to be recognized as the leading math-

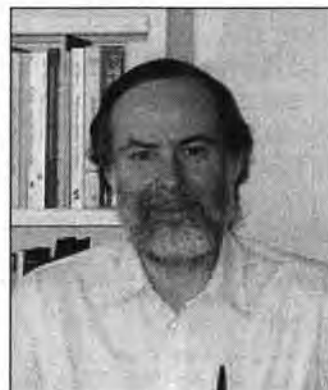
ematics research department in Canada and one of the strongest in North America.

"The College of Computer, Mathematical and Physical Sciences is one of the really strong research and teaching units in the nation,"

Halperin says. "I am truly excited at the opportunity to build on this strength and to work with my new colleagues to recruit faculty and students and to develop programs and directions that will put us at the forefront of scientific work and education in the coming years."

Halperin's research focuses on homotopy theory and loop space homology. He is a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. Halperin received his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Toronto and his doctoral

degree from Cornell University. He succeeds Richard Herman who left the deanship a year ago to become provost at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.



Stephen Halperin

Outlook Publication Schedule

Fall 1999

- August 31
- September 7
- September 14
- September 21
- September 28
- October 5
- October 12
- October 19
- October 26
- November 2
- November 9
- November 16

November 23—Thanksgiving Break

- November 30
- December 7
- December 14

Spring 2000

- February 1
- February 8
- February 15
- February 22
- February 29
- March 7
- March 14

March 21—Spring Break

- March 28
- April 4
- April 11
- April 18
- April 25
- May 2
- May 9
- May 16

Outlook

Outlook is the weekly faculty-staff newspaper serving the University of Maryland campus community. **William Destler**, Interim Vice President for University Advancement;

Teresa Flannery, Executive Director of University Communications and Director of Marketing; **George Cathcart**, Executive Editor; **Jennifer Hawes**, Editor; **Londa Scott Forté**, Assistant Editor; **Valshali Honawar**, Graduate Assistant. Letters to the editor, story suggestions and campus information are welcome. Please submit all material two weeks before the Tuesday of publication. Send material to Editor, Outlook, 2101 Turner Hall, College Park, MD 20742. Telephone (301)

Maryland Continues to Advance in National Rankings

The University of Maryland continued its upward mobility in the latest edition of *U.S. News and World Report's* guide to colleges and universities, published Aug. 23.

Among national public universities Maryland climbed from a tie for 30th last year to a six-way tie for 22nd, with Miami of Ohio, Rutgers, SUNY-Binghamton, Delaware and Georgia.

Maryland jumped past Ohio State, Kansas, Indiana-Bloomington, Colorado, Colorado School of Mines and UC-Riverside to the new ranking. An indication of how close Maryland is to reaching the next level can be seen in the progress of the University of Florida, which last year ranked 23rd among public universities. This year Florida reached 16th and was ranked number 50 in the top tier of national universities.

Maryland remains in the second tier of national universities, which is listed alphabetically.

Maryland's undergraduate business program tied for 21st with Michigan State, Texas A&M, Arizona and Florida. The program ranked 20th three years ago, the last time the magazine ranked undergraduate business programs. In undergraduate business departments, we ranked 26th in general management, between South Carolina and Lehigh.

The undergraduate engineering program tied for 24th with Columbia, Duke and Ohio State, unchanged from three years ago.



Sports Illustrated for Women Ranks Terrapins No. 8 in the Country

The fall issue of *Sports Illustrated for Women* rates the University of Maryland's women's athletic program among the best in the country for women athletes. *SI for Women*, which rated Maryland No. 8 in the nation, judged schools in a variety of areas, including championships won, varsity, club and intramural opportunities, graduation rates, financial aid and fan support, facilities, and sports-related curriculum, traditions and attitude.

"This ranking is a credit to the efforts of world-class coaches, athletes and a hard-working administrative staff," says Athletic Director Deborah Yow. "Increasing the overall funding for women's sports by more than 70 percent over the past five years has been our way of exhibiting tangible support for the efforts by our women's teams."

Six of Maryland's women's varsity sports advanced to NCAA post-season play last year, including the women's lacrosse team, which captured an unprecedented fifth consecutive national title. Seven of the women's programs earned national top 25 rankings during the course of their respective seasons, including lacrosse, field hockey, gymnastics, indoor track, softball, soccer and swimming.

The top 20 women's athletic programs in the United States, according to *SI for Women*:

1. Stanford
2. Florida
3. Texas
4. North Carolina
5. UCLA
6. Georgia
7. Arizona
8. Maryland
9. Harvard
10. Wisconsin
11. Penn State
12. Washington
13. Virginia
14. Princeton
15. Notre Dame
16. Nebraska
17. Connecticut
18. Tennessee
19. Old Dominion
20. Duke



Center for the Performing Arts Renamed for Alumnus Clarice Smith

Last July, the Board of Regents of the University System of Maryland voted to name the university's new performing arts center in honor of long-time friend and alumnus Clarice Smith, who donated \$15 million in April this year to establish an endowment to support the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center at Maryland.

A well-known Virginia artist and collector, Smith has had numerous solo exhibitions in galleries in the United States and abroad. Together with her husband, real estate developer Robert Smith, she has established numerous educational programs supporting scholarly work in the arts and other disciplines. With their most recent gifts to the university, the Smiths have become the largest private donors ever to a public university in Maryland.

"The university will be forever enriched by the generosity and vision of Clarice Smith, who embraced our efforts to create the most outstanding academic and performance facility in the country," President Dan Mote said. "The Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center at Maryland will recognize her lifetime of contributions and commitment to the arts and will be a powerful force for advancing cultural expression on campus and throughout the state and region."

Now under construction on the west side of the campus, the center is a state-of-the-art "village" comprising 10 interconnected structures. The 318,000 square foot complex will contain an 1100-seat concert hall, a 650-seat proscenium theater, a 300-seat recital hall, 200-seat studio and dance theaters, a 100-seat experimental theater and a café.



A rendering of Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center at Maryland.

The Center also will house the university's School of Music and departments of theatre and dance, the Performing Arts Library, and numerous classrooms, seminar rooms and rehearsal spaces. More than 5,000 undergraduate and graduate students each year will learn and perform in the new facility.

"The Clarice Smith Center will provide this campus and this community an enormous spectrum of high-quality educational and performance opportunities, all integrated into one cultural jewel," says Richard Price, interim executive director for the center. "We hope the center will play an important role in attracting the most talented students, as well as the most outstanding professional artists, scholars and teachers to the university's performing arts programs."

The center's performance spaces will host student productions as well as professional touring companies and local community groups. The center will be the only full-service performing arts center along the Baltimore-Washington corridor.

Funding for the center's construction has been provided by the State of Maryland, Prince George's County, the University of Maryland and private gifts.

Office of Information Technology Announces Virus Notification Program

In response to worldwide computer virus outbreaks last spring, the Office of Information Technology has launched the Virus Notification Program (VNP) to help university faculty, staff and students protect their computers.

Computer viruses are small pieces of computer code that replicate and travel from one computer to another by various methods, much like biological viruses. While some viruses exist merely to replicate and spread their infection, others are designed to take actions ranging from the annoying to the highly destructive. The Chernobyl virus, for example, is capable of wiping out the contents of a hard drive, and in some cases making the computer unusable.

In the past, computer viruses were usually transmitted via floppy disk, but the popularity of the Internet has changed all that. Now many new viruses are being transmitted as e-mail attachments that infect computers when the attachments are opened.

The purpose of the Virus Notification Program is to keep the campus community informed about new and dangerous viruses and to provide the information and resources computer users on campus need to protect their computers. Whenever a new and potentially dangerous virus is discovered, the VNP will spread the word to the campus community via

two e-mail lists (one solely dedicated to virus warnings) and through news items in *Outlook*, *Diamondback*, and WMUC, the campus radio station. The VNP will also issue periodic reminders to the community through various media to update anti-virus software on their computers.

All of these announcements will contain the address of the VNP Web page <www.helpdesk.umd.edu/virus>, maintained by members of the OIT Help Desk. Here, faculty, staff, and students can view the latest virus alert details, download the latest anti-virus software programs and updates for their PC and Macintosh machines at no cost, sign up to be on a "virus alerts" mailing list, and read useful tips to avoid virus infections, like not opening unknown e-mail attachments. The Web page will also provide links to other sites that explain how viruses work and how they are transmitted.

For more information about the Virus Notification Program, visit the VNP Web page at <www.helpdesk.umd.edu/virus>, or contact the OIT Help Desk at 405-1500.

dateline maryland

Your Guide to
University Events
August 31 - September 9

September 1

First Day of Classes

Calendar Guide

Calendar phone numbers listed as 4-xxxx or 5-xxxx stand for the prefix 314- or 405. Events are free and open to the public unless noted by an asterisk (*). Calendar information for *Outlook* is compiled from a combination of inform's master calendar and submissions to the *Outlook* office. To reach the calendar editor, call 405-7615 or e-mail Outlook@accmail.umd.edu.

A Full Season of University Theatre

Subscriptions for the 1999-2000 University Theatre season are now available. The season features four subscription productions in Tawes Theatre and two non-subscription productions in Pugliese Theatre. An additional non-subscription production will be presented in Tawes Theatre.

The season opens with "Once on This Island," a rousing Caribbean musical about youthful love and the enduring strength of the human heart. Performances are Oct. 14-23. National Players, the classical touring company in residence at the university, presents "Julius Caesar" by William Shakespeare Dec 2-5. "Julius Caesar" is a murderous tale of greed and deception in which assassins expose man's darkest traits. From April 6-15, University Theatre presents Bertolt Brecht's "The Good Person of Setzuan," a gripping story of eternal struggle between selfishness and charity. The season finale in Tawes Theatre is the National Players' production of Aaron Sorkin's "A Few Good Men," a riveting drama about the dangerous difference between following order and following conscience. Performances are April 27-30.

From Nov. 10-21, University Theatre will present "An Evening of Provincetown One Acts" in Pugliese Theatre. The one acts, "Trifles" by Susan Glaspell and "Suppressed

Desires" by Susan Glaspell and George Cram Cook, are short plays from the Provincetown Players, the turn-of-the-century theatre that pioneered a compelling new direction in American drama. "Private Eyes," a quirky comedy by Steven Dietz that examines, truth, reality and marital fidelity, will run April 26-May 7 in Pugliese Theatre.

"The Fable of Macbeth," an innovative adaptation of William Shakespeare's "Macbeth," will be presented Feb. 23-March 4 in Tawes Theatre. For this production, the entire audience will be seated onstage for an up-close look at the timeless dilemma between honor and ambition. "The Fable of Macbeth" was conceived by Mitchell Hébert, an associate professor in the department of theatre.

Productions in Tawes Theatre feature a variety of accessibility services and facilities,

including an infrared listening system for all performances, subscriptions for an audio description series during Sunday matinees, and subscriptions for a sign interpretation series during Saturday performances. Both Tawes and Pugliese theatres are accessible to theatergoers with physical disabilities.

Discounted Tawes Theatre season subscriptions are now available. Additional subscription discounts are available for university faculty, staff, Alumni Association members, senior citizens and College Park Association of Parents members. For individual productions, discounts are available for students, senior citizens and groups of ten or more.

For season subscription brochures or more information, call the University Theatre Box Office at 405-2201 weekdays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Free Football Tickets

The Athletic Department is offering four free tickets to all University of Maryland faculty and staff to the Saturday, Sept. 11 Maryland Terrapin football game vs. Western Carolina University at 6 p.m. in Byrd Stadium. A fireworks show will immediately follow the game.

To obtain your tickets stop by the Cole Field House ticket office Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Be sure to bring your faculty/staff ID.

For further information call the Ticket Office at 314-7070.



Creative Dance Lab Classes Available

The Creative Dance Lab, sponsored by the department of dance, begins the 1999-2000 school year with a 10-week fall session starting Saturday, Sept. 18. Saturday classes include:

- Creative Dance for four-to-six-year-olds
- Basics in Modern Dance for seven-to-11-year-olds,
- Dance History for ages seven and up (an interactive experience in learning about modern dance pioneers through modern dance technique, improvisation and choreography)
- Modern Dance Technique and Yoga for teens and adults

Homeschooling groups may

arrange specially designed classes which parallel and reinforce their specific home curricula.

All classes will be working toward a performance on April 22, 2000, featuring director Liz Rolland and guest artists, including Kinetics Dance Theatre.

To receive a brochure and registration form, please call 405-7039 or visit the Web page at <www.citi.net/ski/cdl>. To request more information, e-



mail dancelab1@aol.com. Students can register online or through the mail.

FOOTBALL SCHEDULE



Sept. 2 at Temple

Sept. 11 WESTERN CAROLINA

Sept. 18 WEST VIRGINIA

Sept. 30 at Georgia Tech

Oct. 9 at Wake Forest

Oct. 16 CLEMSON

Oct. 23 NORTH CAROLINA

Oct. 30 DUKE

Nov. 6 at North Carolina St.

Nov. 13 at Florida St.

Nov. 20 VIRGINIA

BACK TO



SCHOOL

Fine Dining is Part of Student Life at Maryland

Mahi-Mahi, Coq Au Vin, and Broccoli Souffle are not typical school cafeteria food items, but there's no limit to the student's dining palate at the university. Dining Services caters to diverse appetites of a large student population and has recently added a new upscale eatery, North Woods Buffet Restaurant.

The restaurant features a different theme cuisine daily and offers several entrees, including vegan or vegetarian choices, a special chef-carved roast, side accom-

paniments, soups, baked breads, desserts and a salad bar. Some of the recipes used at North Woods are family treasures of staff members that have been passed down from many generations and are now part of the Maryland family.

In addition to the new restaurant, eateries across campus offer many international delight items, such as Pupusas with Cortido, a Salvadorean dish, and Asian cuisine where students can select their own stir fry items.



University Students Prepare For Return To Campus

Aimee Sheriff is packing to move to her on-campus suite. Sheriff, who has lived on campus for three years, will have her own room this semester for the first time since she entered the university. Still, she is not sure she'll have enough space.

"I think I've brought less and less as the years have gone by," says Sheriff, a senior. Creative space saving and realizing what's really essential is a skill that upperclass students hold in high regard.

Senior sociology major Molly Cooper says she has found a number of ways to avoid overcrowding in her double room. "I have storage containers that fit under my bed, and I have a shoe rack in the closet. I'm lucky because my family lives in Maryland and I can go home for seasonal clothing," Cooper says, but not every student is that fortunate.

Carleen Smorra says it's not easy to get things from her home in New Jersey because she doesn't have a car. Smorra, a sophomore, advises students to use bunk beds to save space. "We're using our floor space for a few bean bag chairs. We like the extra seating for when

our friends visit."

Space is a concern because so many students want to live on campus. This semester, Resident Life reports that almost 8,350 students are living on-campus, and nearly 1,000 housing requests were denied because of lack of adequate accommodations.

Tracy Karstetter, coordinator of marketing programs for the Department of Resident Life, says there are a number of reasons for this lack of room. "Students are staying on campus longer and more first-year students are living on campus," Karstetter says.

Students are packing differently when going off to college as well. According to the staff in the Department of Resident Life, 83 percent of students are bringing their own computers, which, in most cases, monopolize space on desk tops. The latest trends in dorm room furniture include inflatable furniture, lava lamps and futons. "Inflatable furniture takes up too much space," Sheriff says.

Regardless of what they decide to bring to campus to personalize their rooms, they still have to face the start of classes on September 1.

Brightest Freshman Class Ever

continued from page 1

Honors and other programs for the most talented students, such as College Park Scholars, Honors

Humanities and Gemstone. University Honors will enroll more than 700 new students this fall, with an average GPA of 4.0 and

middle SAT range of 1350 to 1460. More than 900 new students will enter as College Park Scholars, with average GPAs of 3.8 and a middle SAT range of 1220 to 1320.

"Talent attracts talent," says Clement. "And as the talent level of our students continues to soar, everyone benefits."

University Takes Steps to Quell Housing Crunch

After searching for a way to house more students, the university has reached an agreement with a private company to build new student housing in an effort to end overcrowding in residence halls and the use of local hotels to accommodate students.

Jan Davidson, assistant director of the Department of Resident Life, says the new complex, which will be called "University Courtyard," is one of many public-private partnerships in a growing trend that has attracted the interest of housing officials at other universities, including Towson University, Salisbury State University and University of Maryland, Baltimore County. "Private developers can move faster than most schools can, and with higher enrollments all over Maryland, public-private partnerships are becoming our best option."

The agreement, which was authorized by the University's Board of Regents and the State Board of Public Works last month, calls for private ownership and management but provides university-

type amenities like resident assistants, shuttle buses and Ethernet connections. Each student will have his or her own room in the furnished apartments. Among the amenities in each apartment unit are full kitchens with dishwashers and washer/dryers. Other community amenities include a clubhouse with a computer lab, a study lounge, recreation area, convenience store and outdoor pool.

The complex will offer three different apartment configurations:

four bedroom, two bath; four bedroom, four bath; and two bedroom, two bath with a price ranging from \$430 to \$550 per month per student. University Courtyard will be located on University Boulevard and Metzger Road about a half mile from the central campus. "We believe students will give up a little convenience for the gained amenities. This will attract upperclass students," Davidson says.

Resident life retains some control over the complex. The university has the right to regulate the rental rates and determine who is assigned to live in the apartments. The units are designed to board students who would normally live in on-campus housing.

University officials admit the 704-bed complex will not fulfill current housing demands. Nearly 1,000 students who applied to live on campus were unable to receive housing this semester.

Tracy Kivas, coordinator for marketing programs at Resident Life, says there are a number of reasons for increased demand for student housing. "Students are staying on campus longer and more first-year students are applying for on-campus living arrangements."

Davidson says that resident life is looking at other sites on and off campus to construct more housing, which he hopes will be completed in time for fall 2001. University Courtyard's construction is scheduled to begin early September and will be completed in time for students to move in for fall 2000.



Distinguished University Professor **Bruce Gardner**, of the department of agricultural & resource economics was recently voted president-elect of the American Agricultural Economics Association (AAEA), the professional association of U.S. agricultural economists, and the world's leading such organization. An AAEA member since 1966, Gardner has previously served the association in many capacities and was elected Fellow of the association in 1989.

In 1989-92 he took leave of absence from Maryland to be U.S. Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Economics. During that time he played a major role in formulating and carrying out the Bush Administration's 1990 Farm Bill activities, developing proposals and analysis for GATT and other trade negotiations, as well as the agricultural aspects of energy, environmental and immigration policy.

A former senior staff economist on the President's Council of Economic Advisers, Gardner is a nationally recognized expert in commodity, trade and marketing, and agricultural policy issues. He is currently investigating causes of economic growth in 20th century U.S. agriculture, the consequences of production contracting for U.S. farms, and problems with U.S. farm capital and investment data.

Charles Heller, director of the Michael Dingman Center for Entrepreneurship at the Robert H. Smith School of Business, has been appointed professor of practice of entrepreneurship at the school. The professor of practice is the first appointment of its kind at the University of Maryland.

Under Heller's leadership, the Dingman Center has become recognized as one of the mid-Atlantic region's premier resources for entrepreneurship. Heller also serves as president of the Baltimore-Washington Venture Group, a Dingman Center-affiliated non-profit corporation.

Robert Hill, associate professor in the department of natural resource sciences and landscape architecture (NRSLA), has received the 1999 Outstanding Teaching Award from the Northeast Branch of the American

Society of Agronomy (NEB-ASA). Hill was nominated by his peers in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and chosen from a pool of outstanding candidates by a NEB-ASA committee of faculty from various universities.

"Dr. Hill's easygoing manner, his attention to detail, and his strong desire for students to learn make him an excellent teacher," says Richard Weismiller, chair of the department of NRSLA. "We're pleased that he has been recognized for his outstanding work."

A faculty member at the university for 15 years, Hill teaches courses in soil physics, soil and water conservation and management and periodically, advanced soil physics. His greatest reward, he says, is watching students get excited about learning and attaining skills they did not think possible.

It's not surprising that Hill's involvement with students doesn't end in the classroom. As the adviser for the soil, water and land resources specialization in the environmental science and policy program, he advises 25 to 30 students at any one time. He also occasionally advises freshmen and transfer students during the summer months.

The Office of Continuing and Extended Education has named **Theone Relos** executive director of marketing and communications. Relos will be responsible for developing strategic marketing plans, establishing new electronic marketing approaches, overseeing market research and institutional advertising, and providing marketing and communication counsel to the university's academic and service units.

Relos previously was director of public relations and marketing at Smith, Bucklin & Associates, Inc., in Washington, D.C., where she headed marketing and communications efforts serving some 45 national and international trade and professional associations. For 10 years she was senior director of public relations and publications at Anne Arundel Community College.

New Faculty Ombudsman Appointed

L. John Martin, professor emeritus of journalism, is the new faculty ombudsman for the university, effective last July 1. As ombudsman Martin will help faculty members resolve concerns about departmental, college and university issues.

"We are fortunate Professor Martin will continue the practice of providing confidential and informal assistance to faculty and administrators in resolving concerns related to their work," President Dan Mote said. "He will follow in the tradition envisioned by the Senate and established by his predecessors, Joel Cohen and Arnold Medvene."

Martin says he sees his role as "working with the faculty and the administration in smoothing out problems that are bound to arise in an institution the size of the University of Maryland." Having served the campus as the College Park Senate's Faculty Grievance Committee chair, Martin has some familiarity with faculty concerns.

According to Mote, Martin brings "a wealth of experience in the academy." During the 20 years he served as a full-time faculty member in the College of Journalism (1969 to 1989), Martin taught, conducted research and held several administrative positions, including that of acting dean of the College in 1975, and again in 1979-80. Before joining the faculty at the University



L. John Martin

of Maryland, he served on the faculties of the universities of Florida, Nebraska and Minnesota.

Martin also chaired the College Park Senate and, for five years, served on the Senate's Executive Committee.

Faculty may contact Martin at 405-1901 or ljmartin@wam.umd.edu.

Tailored Talks Teach Safety Smarts

Bad driving could directly affect your performance at work for reasons that are pretty obvious, once you think of them.

So could the little accidents at home and materials you are exposed to at work. The university, in an effort to make employees aware of the hazards present all around them every day, offers public safety presentations set up by the Department of Environmental Safety.

"There are a lot of workplace injuries that can be so easily avoided with a little awareness. People should understand little things like the correct posture when using a computer," says Chris Benas, manager, industrial hygiene.

The DES presentations are specifically tailored for each department. Recently, at a presentation for the staff of University Advancement, safety and health specialist Tom Shepich talked about topics like Internet safety resources, back safety, fire on campus, chemical safety and the right to know, driver safety and home accident prevention.

"We provide different types of training by request. If any department has any desire to learn about a certain program, we provide them with the training," says Benas.

The DES has been offering

training programs since the mid-'70s.

Mandatory classes are regularly offered to people dealing in hazardous material. These include classes on asbestos awareness, chemical hygiene, confined space, radiation safety, and mandatory safety workshops for laboratory staff. Training courses are also offered online on subjects like bloodborne pathogens, in association with Yale University.

The department also provides information on travel safety, ozone, heat index, air quality and child passenger safety, and makes booklets available on all these topics.

The booklets include accident prevention checklists, tips on what to do in case of accidents, and important phone numbers, among other things.

More information is also available at the department's Web site at www.inform.umd.edu/DES.> Links to other important and useful Web sites for accident prevention and public safety awareness are also available here.

Those interested in setting up safety training classes for their departments should contact the Department of Environmental Safety at 405-3960.

Signs for the Times

The Department of Environmental Safety is currently installing warning signs outside campus laboratories about potential hazards people might encounter inside the labs.

Depending on the hazards present in each lab, like radioactivity, presence of human blood, microorganisms, infectious elements, etc, special signs are being fabricated and installed outside all the labs on campus, says Chris Benas, manager, industrial hygiene.

The need for the signs was felt, Benas says, because people entering labs need to be aware of the hazards they might encounter there.

Also, the yellow signs labeled "Caution" standardize the look of the lab and provide a better idea of what's going on inside. One of the most useful features of the signs will be that they will provide contact information on who to contact in case someone notices any leaks, spillage, etc.

All the information on the signs will be provided at the DES Web site at www.inform.umd.edu/DES. This, Benas says, will give campus police full access to information about all the labs.

Five Faculty Honored as Distinguished Scholar-Teachers

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150 publications, including four books, a national curriculum and the co-edited series, *Advances in Teaching and Learning*.

Graham says his passion for research and teaching are driven by two interrelated goals: to understand why children have difficulty learning and to identify effective methods for helping them learn better. But he does not view this integration as something done only in the classroom. "I frequently share the findings from my research with parents and practicing teachers at both the local and national level," he says.

In keeping with his growing reputation as an international scholar, in January 1998 Graham received the Don Johnston Literacy Lectureship Award for career contributions to literacy education.

Not only does **Linda Mabbs** "possess one of the most beautiful and limpid soprano voices you are likely to find anywhere," as voice chair Dominic Cossa notes, but also she is a dedicated and successful voice teacher. In addition to private voice students, Mabbs teaches English diction, vocal literature and vocal pedagogy for graduate students.

Mabbs says music is "a craft learned by hearing and doing. It can't be learned by reading a book or going to a lecture. It must be handed down from one generation to the next by individual teachers, most of whom were first performers in their own right." Working one-on-one with her students, Mabbs passes on the complex requirement of the art, one person at a time.

It is Mabbs' thoughtfully intelligent approach in the studio and the creative course work she has developed, says School of Music Director Christopher Kendall, that has prepared her students to become discerning teachers. In addition, her outstanding record of success in studio teaching is exemplified by two former students, Harolyn Blackwell and Gordon Hawkins, both of whom have gone on to major careers at the Metropolitan Opera and elsewhere. "Given the extremely competitive nature of the field, this is an impressive accomplishment; and there are other successful students as well," says Kendall.

Mabbs boasts an active and ongoing performance career of real distinction,

says Kendall, with performances in the operatic, recital, oratoria, concert and chamber music media. Among these appearances are roles at the New York City Opera and the Washington Opera, two major venues.

"By being actively involved with the profession, I am able to bring fresh insights back to the university and to our students," says Mabbs. "I can tell them what's out there and speak with authority about the rigors they will face. I can connect them to fine coaches and teachers in New York or other places, and even bring some of these coaches and performers to College Park to give master classes."

In addition, Mabbs' work with the curriculum has led to a total revamping of all course offerings, meeting times and teaching assignments. She has

developed two new courses and rewritten the syllabi for all of the voice/opera courses. "When questions regarding curriculum and advising arise, the voice faculty invariably turns to Linda for answers," says Cossa. "She is a person of extraordinary organizational skills and a veritable storehouse of knowledge which she unselfishly shares with her colleagues," he adds.

Biology Professor **Arthur Popper** clearly

loves what he does and wants to share it with his students. The former chair of zoology and current director of the neurosciences program, has been a mentor and colleague to many students both at the undergraduate and graduate level.

"He likes to know his students as people, and he makes a sincere effort to help them balance their professional and personal lives," says former doctoral student Peggy Edds-Walton.

And, according to Professor Margaret Palmer, Popper really cares about teaching. "I consider it a treasure that someone with his stature has never lost interest in the classroom, in students, and in making his classes exciting," she says.

Popper teaches courses at three

different levels, from freshman biology to Scientific Ethics (aimed at doctoral students and postdocs). It's clear he wants to share his passion with others. In all courses, he says, he attempts to integrate the idea of research rather than his own research.

"When I talk about neuronal physiology, I generally talk a little about the work of my colleague Richard Payne, and when I lecture on Mendelian genetics, I talk about the work of several of my colleagues who work on fruit fly genetics," says Popper. These "advertisements," as Popper deems them, don't allow him much detail about what faculty do, "but students do get the sense there are research opportunities for them. The real fun of all this is that virtually every year I am able to get one or two of my students to actively seek out a faculty member I've mentioned to do research in their labs."

Talking about research in freshman lectures, says Popper, "helps me get across to students that the science they are learning is not static and strictly in a text book. I try to get the students to understand that these topics are the subject of active pursuit by scientists. I try to communicate the idea that many of the teachers they will encounter in biology courses at the university are the very people who are making the discoveries that are causing the information in the text books to change."

Popper's care and concern for students extends beyond the subject matter to issues which arise with new students and their adjustment to campus. "We often consult about ways to help solve student problems and link them

with appropriate campus resources and services," says Robert Infantino, director of Undergraduate Studies.

A passionate learner, Popper likes to take on new things. He has been one of the leaders in his department of mastering multimedia applications for both lecture delivery and Web-based course support.

Frederick Suppe, of the philosophy department, is a distinguished philosopher and historian of science who also has had great success as a teacher and education innovator.

According to philosophy department chair Michael Slote, Suppe's courses are

"more highly rated than just about any other courses in our department."

Exceptional is the term most frequently applied to Suppe's courses and to him as an instructor. But his courses are also known as fairly demanding. "The ratings are a real testimony to his concern for students and his efficacy in conveying ideas," says Slote.

One of Suppe's former undergraduate stu-

dents, R. Douglas North (Class of 1995), says it was obvious when he first entered the classroom that Suppe was not a stereotypical professor. "Casually but neatly outfitted in combat boots, jeans and neo-tribal jewelry, he captured my attention with his self-assured bearing and personable demeanor," says North.

"Unsure of what to expect, it soon became clear that despite his relaxed appearance, his expectation of student mastery of difficult material was not going to make for an easy semester," says North. But what could easily have been "dry and oppressive lectures on scientific method became colorful discussions within which the class material acquired relevancy."

North says Suppe shows profound interest in the progress of former students, seeing how they are developing and what paths they are taking. "He takes personal pride in each of his student's accomplishments," North adds.

Colleague Raymond Martin, says Slote, once remarked "whatever Fred teaches sets the departmental scholarly standard for courses at that level in a given semester. His courses are challenging and he gets students to perform at uncharacteristically high levels of achievement."

In 1994, the Center for Teaching Excellence recognized Suppe as Outstanding Philosophy Teacher. In addition he has received two campus improvement of undergraduate instruction awards, and one from the College of Arts & Humanities.



Frederick Suppe



Linda Mabbs



Art Popper

for your interest

events • lectures • seminars • awards • etc.

The Perfect Host

The Office of Information Technology (OIT) is now offering a web-site hosting service for campus organizations and departments. The service provides up to 100 MB of disk space, three UNIX/FTP accounts, a cgi-bin directory, the ability to set up password-protected pages, and RealAudio and RealVideo capabilities. In addition, service subscribers may access nightly statistical data and usage reports about their Web site, as well as access to the raw log files.

The Web site host name may be in either the umd.edu or the .org domain, which means the subscriber may choose the name he or she wishes to use (eg. <www.oit.umd.edu>). The basic service costs \$600 per year and additional services are available for an additional fee. The Web site can be augmented with Cold Fusion, on-line chat software, additional disk space and more UNIX/FTP users.

For more information on the Web hosting service, e-mail webhosting@umail.umd.edu or visit <www.webhosting.umd.edu>.

Booking a Discount

The University Book Center is offering all full-time faculty and staff a 10 percent discount on textbooks purchased for personal use, and a 20 percent discount on all other merchandise excluding special orders, sale books, class/alumni rings, computer hardware and software, periodicals, discounted merchandise, stamps, health and beauty aids, food snacks and beverages.

In addition, a discount will be offered at the following two Barnes & Noble Superstores: Columbia/Ellicott City, 4300 Montgomery Road; and Rockville, 12089 Rockville Pike, as follows:

- * a 10 percent discount off everyday prices of all books in the superstore except *New York Times* hardcover bestsellers which are already discounted 30 percent.

- * a 10 percent discount off the everyday prices of maps, globes, greeting cards and everything else in the store except merchandise from the music department, special orders, gift certificates, multimedia, periodicals, cafe purchases and other special discount offers.

Call For Nominations

The President's Awards Advisory Committee is seeking nominations for the President's Medal and the President's Distinguished Service Awards. The President's Medal is the highest honor the College Park campus bestows upon a member of its own community and it is intended to recognize the accomplishments of an outstanding member of the university community who has made significant contributions to the advancement of the university.

The President's Distinguished Service Awards recognize those employees who enrich the College Park campus through intellectual, social, cultural and service contributions. Nominations for both categories must be submitted by Sept. 3. The awardees will be honored at the fall convocation on Oct. 12.

If you need another copy of the "call for nominations," please call or e-mail Sapienza Barone in the President's Office (405-5790, sbarone@deans.umd.edu).

First Fridays Front-liners

The free and fun-filled customer service refresher sessions, once known as, "4th Friday 4 Front-liners," have become "First Friday 4 Front-liners" and are being offered on the first Friday of each semester and summer. Designed for those who meet and greet students, visitors and customers face to face and on the phone, the next session is scheduled

for Sept. 3, in Room 1100 Memorial Chapel from 10:30 a.m. to noon. Supervisors are encouraged to attend with their front-liners.

Call campus visitor advocate Nick Kovalakides at 314-9893 by Aug. 31 to reserve your spot.

Thieves at Work

Numerous thefts of computers and other office equipment recently have been reported to university police. In many instances, thefts occur while work areas are left unattended and unsecured for short periods of time. There also have been numerous instances of property (stereos, CD's, books, cellular phones) being stolen out of parked vehicles.

Help curb this activity by secur-

edge online college textbook retailer that uses the latest technology to deliver its goods and services. Two tech entrepreneurs, Eric Kuhn and Tim Levy, armed with a potential "killer ap" turned their obsession into a very successful business. College students are now able to tap a few buttons on their computers, browse a listing of books for a particular course, enter a credit card number, and in one to three business days, receive their textbooks for the semester.

Bastnagel will discuss the strategies and techniques used to facilitate the company's tremendous growth. Bastnagel is responsible for defining the technology strategies and delivery infrastructure that enable the company's e-commerce business model.

The company, which tested its web site at five local universities in the fall of 1998, increased sales more than tenfold during the next season. While selling books to students at nearly every school across the country, VarsityBooks.com currently features more than 300 colleges and universities on the Web site, offering students at these schools the value-add of course booklist information.

Computer Consolidation

As part of the reorganization of the Office of Information Technology (OIT), the computer operations components of the Academic and Distributed Services (formerly aITs) and the Operations and Enterprise Applications (formerly ACC) departments are being consolidated in the A. V. Williams I Building. Both departments are now part of OIT.

This consolidated facility will streamline operations resulting in improved services for faculty and students. As a result of the consolidation, location for retrieval of printed output or tapes will change.

The changes for users of the facility formerly located in the Computer & Space Sciences Building are:

- * The 3800 and HP printers will be moved. (The queue names for these printers include prl and csc-ps. Queue names for the printers being moved will not change.)

- * Output dispatch and tape library services have been relocated to the new dispatch area in 1299 A.V. Williams Building. The dispatch facility in the Computer and Space Sciences Building (Room 1340) has closed.

Questions should be directed to the OIT Help Desk (Computer and Space Sciences Building West Wing Room 1400) at 405-1500, 8 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday-Friday during the fall and spring semesters (9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. during semester breaks and the summer semester).

The Help Desk also can be contacted by electronic mail at helpdesk@umail.umd.edu.

College Park Senate Meetings; Fall 1999

Listed below is the schedule for the Fall 1999 College Park Senate meetings. The meetings will be held from 3:15 to 5:30 p.m. in room 0200 of the Skinner Building. Please direct any questions regarding this schedule to Teresa Moore at 405-5805 or via e-mail at temoore@deans.umd.edu.

- Thursday, Sep. 30
- Monday, Oct. 25
- Thursday, Nov. 18
- Monday, Dec. 6



ing unattended work areas, vehicles and property. Lock office and vehicle doors while away, even for short periods of time. Store property in a secure location and out of sight. Acquire special devices designed to secure expensive equipment, e.g., hardware that fastens computer and other equipment to fixed objects. Immediately report suspicious people (e.g., strangers milling around office areas and parking lots) or circumstances to police (911 emergency; 405-3555 non emergency).

You may request the University of Maryland police to conduct a Security Survey of your work area by calling 405-3555.

VarsityBooks.com Views

At a breakfast presentation sponsored by the Dingman Center for Entrepreneurship, Maryann Bastnagel, senior vice president and chief information officer for VarsityBooks.com Inc., discusses "From David to Goliath: Growing a Customer Base to Monster Proportions." The breakfast event takes place Wednesday, Sept. 15, from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. at the McLean Hilton at Tyson's Corner.

VarsityBooks.com is a cutting